



EVERY TUESDAY

CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

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PRICE THREEPENCE

AT SCHOOL ON AN ATOLL

An Englishwoman's Pupils in the Far-Away Pacific

GOING to school in the Pacific frequently means a long journey by ship. After teaching for 26 years in a school on the remote atoll of Beru in the Gilbert Islands Miss May Pateman, of Croydon, is home in England again, and she has been telling the C.N. something of the life of her pupils there.

Her girls come from the 16 islands of the Gilberts, strung out like a rope of pearls in the Pacific just south of the Equator.

When the school was started by the London Missionary Society Miss Pateman collected from each girl enough coconuts to satisfy the girl's appetite for six months. In addition her parents had to provide about two pounds for school books, and five shillings as a school fee. She was collected for school and brought home again by the mission ship John Williams.

At the atoll school Miss Pateman's chief aim has been to train the girls to be good wives and mothers of the Gilbertese. Each girl weaves her own sleeping-mat and learns how to produce the lovely and ancient designs of the

Gilbert Islands in hats and baskets and fans.

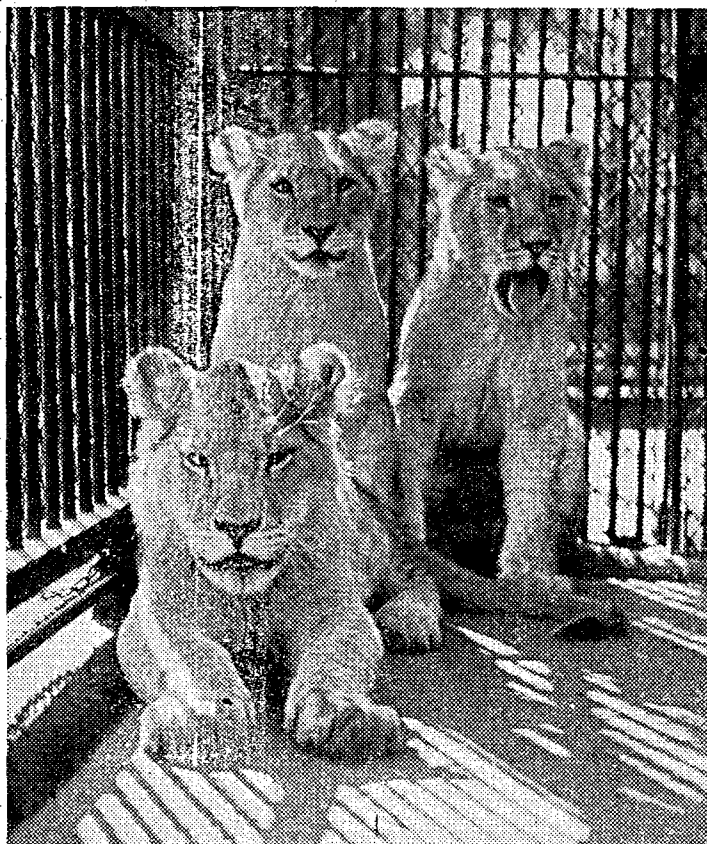
The girls love singing, and one of the most exciting exercises of the school year is the competition with the boys' school in composing words and tunes. Each Christmas they perform a Nativity play, and the Old Testament stories are acted with great enthusiasm.

Each half-year Miss Pateman tries to visit the other islands of the Gilbert Group—an adventure which usually means being carried ashore pick-a-back on the sturdy shoulders of a Gilbertese islander. On the islands Miss Pateman sees her old pupils making their homes and rearing their families. It is usually the girls who have been to the atoll school who make the best island mothers. On one island they had a cleaning-up campaign, seeing to it that no waste tins, paper, and rubbish were left under the palm trees.

During the war Miss Pateman's school was closed for a short period owing to the Japanese occupation. When Miss Pateman returned to Beru she expected to find that all her possessions had been stolen. But to her delight she found that the islanders had carefully buried her belongings in deep holes in the bush. The only thing missing was a case of soap, and this the islanders wished to pay for, so ashamed were they that anything should be lost.

Miss Pateman hopes to go back to her job in one of the most remote schools in the Empire. Some of her new girls will be the children of her first pupils, so carrying on from generation to generation a strong tradition of service and comradeship.

TRIPLETS



The three lion cubs born at the Bristol Zoo maintained a dignified pose for the camera—but one just could not resist the temptation to yawn.

SEA GHOSTS PAY THEIR TAXES

EACH winter, when the waves pile up in Saldanha Bay, near Cape Town, and the north-wester roars along the coast, people may be seen clambering over the rocks with which the beach is studded, searching for gold coins.

One man recently, poking among the seaweed that grows between the jagged reefs, found four Spanish coins the size of British five-shilling pieces. They were dated 1632 and had been minted during the reign of Philip the Fourth; but he was not surprised. "The ghosts of the Meresteyn are paying their taxes again," was all he said.

The Meresteyn was a Dutch East Indiaman which foundered and sank in 50 feet of water in Saldanha Bay some three hundred years ago. She was filled with treasure from the East and all efforts to salvage her chests of gold and silver have failed. But even now, in winter, when the severe gales blow and the waves thunder on the reefs, the sea gives up its wealth.

Ducats, ducatoons, and other coins have been found in the past, and whenever "tax paying" time comes round the beach is thronged with seekers after treasure trove.

But the coloured folk of the Cape and the dark-skinned ship hands will have nothing to do with the washed-up coins. They say the money belongs to the ghosts of the sea, to whom it should be returned.

The Orchestra in the Village Inn

MEMBERS of the Hallé Orchestra, home again after a successful tour on the Continent, have a delightful tale to tell of a night unexpectedly spent in a little Alpine village. While they were on their way over the mountains from Salzburg to play in a concert at Graz their transport broke down and they were forced to seek shelter in the inn at a little village called Rottenmann. There the musicians had to stay one night. Out came their instruments, and to the delight of the assembled villagers they played for their benefit just as wandering minstrels used to do in days of old.

A Rat, a Mouse, and a Beetle AN ELECTRICIAN'S PECULIAR MATES

WHEN Mr K. van Ryneveld, an electrician of Braamfontein, Transvaal, goes out on a job he often takes with him a case of common mice and a tube containing beetles. These creatures help him to instal electric wiring in new houses.

He first got the idea (he explained to a representative of the Sunday Times, Johannesburg) when confronted with the task of threading electric cable through a narrow pipe or conduit running up eight floors of a ten-story building. The builders had put in the pipe, but had apparently not worried themselves about how the cable was to be got through it. As the pipe had bends in it the cable could not be let down from the top. Someone suggested pulling up the cable

with string—but how was the string to be threaded through the pipe in the first place? That was the problem.

Then an apprentice caught a rat, the string was tied to its hind leg and it was put into the bottom of the pipe. The rat emerged from the top with the string, the other end of which was tied to the cable which was drawn up in its turn.

Now mice do the rat's job. Sometimes in single-story houses the pipe is too small even for a mouse to negotiate, so then a beetle earns his keep. But he is a slow worker—his quickest time for climbing a 12-foot pipe is four hours. Once Mr van Ryneveld had to wait five days for his small "mate" to complete his climb.

ONE-MAN OLYMPIC TEAM

SINGAPORE is likely to be represented at the Olympic Games by a one-man team. He is Lloyd Oscar Valberg, a high jumper of rich promise. His rise to prominence in athletics is a romantic story.

Lloyd Valberg had always been keen on jumping, but it was not until Singapore had been liberated, in 1945, that he took up the sport seriously. One day he bought some peanuts, which were wrapped in a piece of newspaper bearing the photograph of

a famous high jumper using the Eastern cut-off style. Lloyd Valberg was intensely interested in this picture and he began to practise jumping, using that style.

At the 1947 Singapore A.A.A. meeting, he set up a new record of 6 feet 3 inches, and later in the season he cleared 6 feet 4 inches. Since then he has been training hard, and he is coming to England full of hope that he will hold his own against the world's most famous jumpers.

1,000,000 Revolutions a Minute

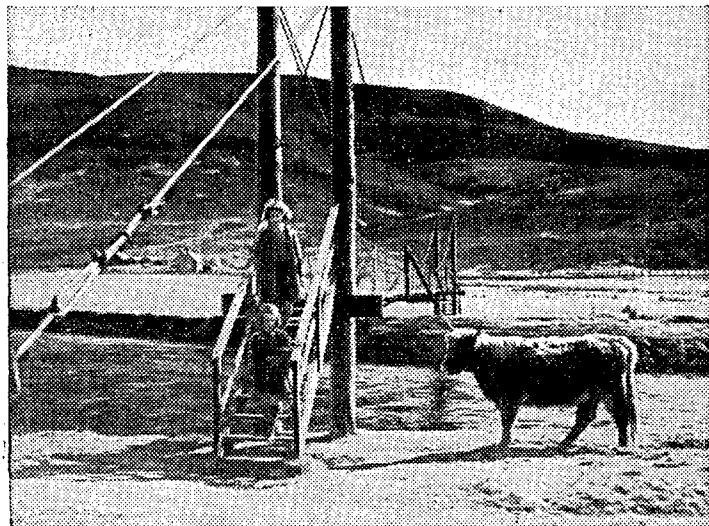
WHAT is the highest speed ever attained by a "stationary" object? Ordinary electric motors can revolve at 5000 revolutions per minute, while the rotors of a jet-propulsion unit turn at 50,000 r.p.m. Small model rotors have revolved at 100,000 r.p.m., but it remained for special machinery to push the limit yet higher.

Within the past few months, at a Government research laboratory, a machine has been tested in which the "rotor" revolves at 1,000,000 r.p.m. The rotor is in the form of a small ball or pellet, and it is supported on magnetic fields instead of having material support. The same magnetic fields are used to speed it up to the fantastic rate it attains in its circular orbit, which is in a vacuum. The speed corresponds to a longitudinal speed of about 500 m.p.h., although the actual orbit is very small.

Gyroscopes can continue to turn for a minute or two on their own, but the losses in air resistance and friction soon bring them to a stop. But so nicely balanced is the ball in this new machine that it can continue to revolve for a week after the power is cut off.

And what is the use to which this high-speed ball is to be put? Believe it or not, the high-speed ball is to be used to test paint!

GOING TO SCHOOL



A journey to school for these two girls in the lonely county of Sutherland, in the Highlands, means a three-mile walk over the hills and across a river.

A PLAN FOR WESTERN GERMANY

The House of Lords

THE thorny question of the future of Western Germany has again become prominent in international discussions. It has arisen as a result of the recommendations of the Six-Power Conference recently held in London.

CN readers will remember that the main trouble with Germany is its division into two main parts: Eastern, occupied by Russia, and Western, occupied by Britain, the United States, and France. But this is not the only problem the Allies have to solve about defeated Germany.

Although the Western Allies as a whole agree that there must in the future be a peaceful Germany, unable to menace the peace of Europe and of the world, they are by no means agreed how to achieve it.

France's Fears

France, for instance, is exceedingly afraid of German militarism and of the Germans' desire to have a strong central Government. She fears that once again Germany may prepare an invasion of France and the Low Countries. Therefore France wishes to see a weak Government in Germany rather than a strong central one. And to remove war-making power from Germany she also wants to see the Ruhr, Germany's main arsenal, removed from the control of a central German Government—indeed any German Government. France is also anxious to have security against any possible threat from Germany, preferably in the form of an American guarantee of armed help in case of German aggression.

Britain and America, of course, understand France's fears; but they also take a broader view on the question of German and European reconstruction. They see in the Ruhr not only a great arsenal of a possibly hostile Germany, but also a magnificent workshop where the great and useful things of peace—factories, bridges, railways, and thousands of other things can be made to

speed the rebuilding of the torn Continent.

The recommendations of the Six-power Conference must thus be seen in the light of the two basic ideas about Germany—the French fears and the Anglo-American desire to get on with the rebuilding of the prosperity of Western Europe. The plan put forward is therefore in the nature of a compromise. In it Britain and America go a long way to protect France against the possibility of a German assault. There will, for example, be continued occupation of Germany until "the peace of Europe is secured."

It is recommended that the Ruhr should forthwith—that is, prior to the establishment of a German Government—be placed under an International Authority on which France, Britain, America, the Benelux Countries, and Germany will each have representatives. Decisions will be taken by a majority and Germany will not be permitted to use the tremendous industrial resources of the Ruhr, the steel, coal, coke, and machinery, as she pleases. This Authority will prevent the construction of armaments and be succeeded by a similar international body at the peace settlement.

The Nine States

Another important recommendation deals with the formation of a Constituent Assembly of delegates from the nine States of Western Germany, which will draw up a Constitution for a federal form of Government.

The Germans themselves will therefore be able to fashion their future Constitution, though the occupying powers will have the power of veto should it infringe the rights and freedoms of the individual.

The Mighty Monkey Nut

THE great undertaking for growing the oil-producing ground nut—monkey nut—in East Africa has now a rival in a scheme for growing them on the other side of Africa. This scheme is described in the Report of the West African Oilseeds Mission (Stationery Office, 1s 6d). The experts of the Mission suggest that in five areas of Northern Nigeria, the Gold Coast, and the Gambia, not less than 225,000 tons of shelled groundnuts a year could be eventually produced.

The Mission recommend that the groundnuts should be grown in areas which are mostly uninhabited; for, as they point out, the African natives would not agree to the regions in which they live and cultivate the land being turned into huge groundnut plantations.

The farming methods of the African in these parts are primitive. But no amount of propaganda will convince him that his tools are old-fashioned. He wants to see the new methods demonstrated before he will believe they are of any use.

So, it is proposed that the new groundnut plantations shall be away in the wilderness where the land is covered by a canopy

of small, short-trunked, deep-crowned trees, beneath which grows coarse grass.

There is a tragic reason for the absence of inhabitants in one region, Kontagora in Nigeria, which the Mission propose as a groundnut plantation. Slave raiding had been carried on right up to 1901, when it was brought under British control. As the unhappy inhabitants were carried off, the bush spread, bringing with it the wild beasts and the tsetse fly.

Now it is proposed that civilised man should march back—behind a 150 hp bulldozer, uprooting trees and clearing some three acres a day ready for the nut.

In these cleared regions the Mission suggests the eventual establishment of 1120 new villages, each consisting of 20 African families. At first the workers would be paid, but ultimately they would farm the land themselves on a co-operative basis with machinery.

These village communities, cultivating not only groundnuts but also millet and grass, would be a demonstration to all West Africans of the value of mechanised agriculture.

PROBLEM OF OUR SECOND CHAMBER

THE Government's Parliament Bill, which is a Bill to reduce the powers of the House of Lords, has been rejected by that House. This Bill seeks to reduce the period by which the Lords can delay the passing of any Bill, except of course a financial one, from two years to one year.

Although this new Parliament Bill has been rejected by the Lords, it can, nevertheless, become law without their consent, probably in December 1949—two years after its second reading in the Commons on November 11, 1947.

This is made possible by a previous Parliament Act, that of 1911 passed by a Liberal Government. It was this Act which, among other things, reduced the period by which the House of Lords could delay a Bill to two years. Even this did not apply to a Bill involving the expenditure of money. A Money Bill, as it is called, could only be delayed by the House of Lords for one month. Thus the control of the nation's finances passed completely to the House of Commons.

Single-Chamber Rule

The reason why many of the Lords voted against the present Parliament Bill was because they feared it would lead to what is called "single-handed government," meaning government of the country by the House of Commons alone. In most democratic countries there are two Chambers, the second one usually being called a Senate.

For many years all parties have agreed that our House of Lords should be reformed, and the preamble of the 1911 Parliament Act recorded the intention to "substitute for the House of Lords as it at present exists a Second Chamber constituted on a popular instead of a hereditary basis." Since 1911, however, no agreement has been reached as to how this should be carried out.

So there still remains the difficult question "Do we want a Second Chamber and, if so, who are to sit in it and what are to be its powers?" It is a problem to which we should all turn our minds.

A Lancashire Landmark

BLACKO TOWER, a very familiar landmark along the Lancashire-Yorkshire boundary, is to be restored. Mr Frank Barritt, a Colne churchworker who visited the broken, chimney-like tower a month or two ago, has since organised a working party of Boy Scouts and others to restore it voluntarily.

Originally known as Jonathan's Tower, it was built about 1890 by Mr Jonathan Stansfield, who has been described by a local historian as "a hard-working, thrifty, enterprising man who had a grocery and general store in Barrowford, founded by his father in 1820." His original idea was to reach sufficient height to view the full expanse of Ribblesdale, but this was later abandoned. Asked why he built this tower Mr Stansfield replied: "I have never drunk nor smoked in my life, so I am making this my hobby."

WORLD NEWS REEL

EXIT BENES. President Benes of Czechoslovakia has resigned. It is reported that he refused to sign the new constitution. He has been given the use of the castle of Lany, West Bohemia, for his retirement. The new President is Mr. Klement Gottwald.

The total of young people who have gone to Australia this year with their parents is well over 1000.

Catering for tourists is South Africa's third best industry, coming after gold and wool.

NEW STATE. By an agreement signed between France and Viet Nam (formerly French Indo-China) Viet Nam becomes an independent associated State with-in the French Union.

A new air service between Britain and India has been opened by the Constellation air-liner Rajput Princess.

The U.S. Senate has passed a Bill to conscript men between the ages of 19 and 25 if they have not already served in the armed forces.

FLYING CARS. Silver City Airways, a British company, have started a scheme whereby cars with parties up to four people may be flown to France for £32. They are to be flown from Lympe, Kent, to Le Touquet in 20 minutes.

Early next month the first crossing of the Atlantic by jet-propelled aircraft will be made by six de Havilland Vampire fighters

flying by way of Iceland, Greenland, and Labrador; the planes are to take part in United States Air Force exercises and also give displays in Canada and the U.S.

A wheat crop of 1192 million bushels in the United States has been estimated by the Department of Agriculture. This would be the second largest ever recorded and would enable over 400 million bushels to be exported.

THIS FREEDOM. The United States Supreme Court has ruled that freedom of speech includes the right to use a loud speaker. By a majority the Court declared unconstitutional a New York ordinance which prohibited the use of loud-speaker vans in towns without the permission of the police.

An Australian good-will mission visited Singapore not long ago.

New Zealand's population is now over 1,823,000, including 100,000 Maoris. In the last 10 years it has increased by 204,000.

SUPERSONIC. The American Secretary for Air has announced that a rocket aircraft has flown faster than the speed of sound. Captain Charles Yeager was the pilot.

In Brussels the Book of the Month prize was awarded recently to Blackmore's Lorna Doone.

The Prime Minister of India, Pandit Nehru, has accepted an invitation from Mr Attlee to visit Britain. He is expected to arrive in October.

Ceylon has applied for admission to the United Nations.

HOME NEWS REEL

STARTING YOUNG. Aged four and a half, Andrew Pokropek, of Willesden Swimming Club, has qualified for his 200-yards swimming certificate.

A Scientific Advisory Committee, led by Sir Edward Appleton, a Nobel prize-winner, has been appointed by the BBC. The Committee is to link the BBC with scientific research carried out by Government organisations and other bodies.

Manufacturers of chick boxes have urged the importance of salvaging waste paper for the making of chick boxes. If sufficient chick boxes are not made, there will be fewer home-produced eggs next winter.

SCHOOL TREAT. At Crook, near Windermere, a deer from nearby woods recently tried to get into the school.

The National Portrait Gallery has bought a drawing of Jane Austen, the novelist, made by her sister Cassandra about 1810.

An incomplete first edition of "The Fayttes of Armes and of Chyvalrye," translated from the French by William Caxton, and

printed at Westminster in 1489, has been sold for £1250.

TOUGH. Quella, a 4-year-old Alsatian belonging to a blind St Dunstan's inspector, fell 100 feet from the top of Brighton cliffs while chasing a seagull, but was unhurt.

Some 13th-century wall-paintings have been found in Old Windsor Church.

The privilege of a lord accused of felony to be tried by his peers, which the lords have enjoyed since Magna Carta, has been ended by a clause in the Criminal Justice Bill. A lord will now be liable to the same kind of trial as anyone else.

FIVE-MILE CHAMPION. A new world record for the five-mile walk has been made at Mottspur Park, Surrey, by H. G. Churcher, of Belgrave Harriers. His time, 35 minutes 43.4 seconds, was 3.3 seconds better than the previous best.

Finsbury Public Library, now has some coloured murals of the borough's history, drawn by boys of Owen's School under the guidance of their art teacher.

YOUTH NEWS REEL

MILL SHIP. Bedfordshire's oldest mill, near Dunstable, has been transformed into a kind of training ship for Sea Cadets. It has cabins and wardrooms, and in front a model quarter-deck has been built.

Princess Elizabeth has sent grants to the Girl Guides Association and the Boy Scouts Association from the Royal Wedding Presents Exhibition Fund.

Sir Oliver Franks, the new British Ambassador to U.S.A., is a former Wolf Cub, Boy Scout, and Rover Scout.

Four Scouters from Malaya have arrived in England to study Scout-

ing. They will attend training courses at Gilwell Park.

AMATEUR CIRCUS. In a shade temperature of 105 degrees members of the Boys' Brigade Company in the Victoria Leprosy Hospital at Dichpali in India, presented their own "circus," complete with clowns, trapezists and contortionists.

A scheme for a combined cadet force for schools has now been agreed upon by the Government. The scheme provides for specialist Navy, Army, and Air Force sections for the older boys, and will make it easier for schools to run cadet forces for all three services.

Controlling Frost by Helicopter

A NOVEL experiment in the use of a helicopter to control frost conditions was described recently at the West of Scotland Agricultural College farm at Auchincruive by Dr John Grainger, head of the plant pathology department, and Mr D. F. Booth, who is working on frost research for the Agricultural Council.

Dr Grainger explained that the frost most damaging to plants is what is known as radiation frost. When a calm, cool night follows a warm day there is an inversion of temperatures, and the coldest air is found near the ground.

This was where the helicopter came in. During the first part of the experiment a helicopter was landed near lines of posts, each of which bore a thermometer. While the machine

remained stationary its rotors fanned the air vigorously for 15 minutes, during which time the thermometers on the posts registered a steady and significant rise in temperature as the warmer air was fanned down to mix with the cold layer at ground level.

After time had been allowed for the inversion conditions to reform with the cold layer of air near the ground, the helicopter completed the experiment by flying over the area for 15 minutes at about fifty feet. Again a rise in temperature was noted.

It seems possible, if further experiments prove successful, that at sunset the ploughman may no longer "homeward plod his weary way" but will be wafted into the evening sky in the farmer's helicopter to stir the air above the early potatoes in Home Field.

Popular Tartan

ALTHOUGH most tartan products are now reserved for export there has been such a demand for tartan by overseas buyers that manufacturers in Scotland find themselves unable to cope with it. For one thing, tartan cloth takes a long time to make, because the weaving of every inch of material requires as many as 60 threads. Tweed, another favourite export, takes only about a third of the time to make. A shortage of skilled weavers and of yarn is also holding up the production of tartan, but despite these handicaps the trade is doing yeoman service in earning dollars.

UNREHEARSED

NOR long ago six London school-children were helping to make a road safety film in a busy main road of Bermondsey. The camera filmed them as they advanced to the edge of the pavement, carefully looked both ways, then crossed after a lorry had passed. But hanging on to the back of the lorry were four unauthorised small boys!

This unrehearsed incident, however, taught the offenders a lesson, for they were very embarrassed when told that all their friends would see them behaving in this foolish manner.



No Novice

With the confidence of an expert, a girl from the Burlescombe School, in Devon, calmly inspects a colony of bees at a beekeeper's gathering in Exeter.

GREAT RINGING DAY

OUTSTANDING among England's bell-ringing festivals is Saffron Walden's Great Ringing Day, which has been kept up for over 300 years and will again be celebrated this year on Saturday, June 26. Bell-ringers from various other towns and villages, together with many overseas visitors, will attend.

The Saffron Walden Society of Bell-Changes, which claims to be the oldest society of its kind in the country, was founded just 325 years ago, after the death of a London merchant who had once lost his way while travelling through the woods around the town. He had found his bearings again only when he heard the church bells, and to show his gratitude left a legacy to provide local bell-ringers once a year with a day's holiday, a good supper, and half a guinea apiece. In addition, the successive vicars have ever since received two guineas annually to preach a special sermon on the anniversary of the benefactor's death, which became known as Great Ringing Day.

Radio Centenarian

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Billie Whitelaw, of Bradford, who had a prominent part in Wuthering Heights, as broadcast from the BBC Leeds studio, has made a hundred broadcasts.



She began broadcasting when she was 12½ and is particularly well known for her part in the Bunkle plays in the Northern Children's Hour.

For the second year in succession young listeners have voted for Bunkle as first favourite for their request week.

Billie is now taking the name part in a new serial entitled Adam of the Road, a weekly feature in the Northern Children's Hour programme. Most of the roles Billie has played have been of boys. She can adapt her voice to suit those of various ages.

STAMP NEWS

SYRIA has issued two new sets to commemorate the First Arab Archaeological Congress and the Arab Engineers Congress, both held recently. A set is also to be issued to commemorate Compulsory Military Service in Syria.

A set of stamps from Austria commemorates the fight against tuberculosis. The designs chosen show the wild flowers of the field and forest in full bloom.

THE first provisional stamps of the Jewish State in Palestine have been issued at Tel-Aviv.

FOUR US stamps on sale this year will commemorate: Clara Barton, first President of the American Red Cross; centenary of the Oregon Territory; centenary of Peace and Co-operation with Canada; and the 100 years March of Progress of the five civilised American Tribes of Indians.

A new set of stamps from Hungary depicts George Stephenson and The Rocket; the liner Queen Mary; Thomas Edison and a cinematograph; Blériot and his monoplane; and Columbus and the Santa Maria.



Then and Now

Mr. R. G. Nash of Weybridge, Surrey, has an interesting museum of vehicles and cycles. This giant penny-farthing bicycle, made in 1884 and having a wheel diameter of 84 inches, makes a quaint contrast with the modern car.

TRAIN TROLLEY

BRITISH Railways are introducing a novel method of taking refreshments to passengers on trains. A narrow trolley, only nine and a half inches wide, carrying snacks, is wheeled along the corridors and the refreshments are sold to passengers in their compartments.

It is intended to use one trolley for eatables, and another for drinks. Ice cream will also be sold from them.

The idea has already been tried out on trains of the North-Eastern region, on which the trolleys proved to be popular.

Arabs at School

THE age-old love of learning and scholarship among the Arab people has taken fresh life in Palestine where the Arab community in Hebron completed just eight months ago a secondary school which cost nearly £60,000, all contributed by the people of the district. This is one of the finest secondary schools in Palestine, built in lovely soft-coloured stone, with playing-fields, a clean, airy dormitory housing forty students, and an attractive kitchen.

One visitor says she was astonished to see classes doing physics both in English and Arabic. From Hebron the scholars go on to the Arab college in Jerusalem, and some want to go to America.

Family Help

AN idea which is bound to grow lies in the beginning of Family Service Units.

Here voluntary workers are banding themselves together to help families in difficulties where the house, or the children, or the old people, or the illness of father makes matters hard and wretched. Most families put a brave face on things and rarely say how hard it is to get along. But there comes a time when all the official ways of helping are no longer helpful and the kind, understanding sympathy of someone who will listen and care is needed. Such is a Family Service Unit which did much good in the war as Pacifist Service Units.

The CN welcomes their fresh beginning and hopes that anyone wishing to know more will write to 71 Lombard Street, EC3.

A DOG'S LONG TREK HOME

LAST year a sad black and gold Alsatian dog named Susie had to leave her home at Stockport. She was sent away because her mistress felt she had not time to look after her properly. She was bought by a new owner in South Devon. From there, recently, she found her way 400 miles back to her old home where she arrived quite exhausted.

Susie will not be sent away again!

Youth Gives a Lead

BRITISH young people are to attend several international Youth Festivals organised this summer by the Council for Education in World Citizenship. Over 40 of them, between 14 and 17, are to take part in the Rouen Youth Festival from July 11 to 16, at which it is expected there will be about 20,000 children from different countries.

This month a number of young British folk attended the Munich Youth Congress, the principal aim of which was to enable young people to learn something of conditions in Germany and to help establish contacts between German youth and that of other lands in Europe.

CEWC is also sending a party of schoolboys to the International Summer School at

Versailles which is being held from August 16 to 30 under the auspices of the World Federation of United Nations Associations. The CEWC's own Summer School will be at Geneva during the last week in August, and probably more than 100 British boys and girls of 16 and over will go to it.

In our own country, CEWC has organised summer conferences for pupils at Hatfield, Herts, from July 30 to August 6, and at Buxton, Derbyshire, from August 21 to 28. The Teachers' Conference is to be at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, from August 6 to 13.

More information about these conferences can be obtained from CEWC, 11 Maiden Lane, London, WC2

Thomas Hardy's Birthplace

ALL lovers of English literature can rejoice at the news that the charming thatched cottage at Higher Bockhampton where Thomas Hardy was born on June 2, 1840, has been bought by the National Trust.

Amidst this beautiful Dorset country, half woodland, half heath, Hardy was nurtured, "shaped, made aware." This is the country which he re-created as the Wessex of his novels, and no doubt it was near his birthplace that Hardy first received the impression which he describes so vividly in *Far from the Mad-ding Crowd*:

"To persons standing alone on a hill during a clear midnight such as this, the roll of the world eastward is almost a palpable movement. The sensation may be caused by the panoramic glide of the stars past earthly objects, which is perceptible in a few minutes of stillness, or by the better outlook upon space that a hill affords, or by the wind, or by the solitude; but whatever be its origin the impression of riding along is vivid and abiding."

In the countryside around Higher Bockhampton Hardy also noted with a keen and appreciative eye those rustics who were to figure so largely in his novels—the hedgers and ditchers, the ploughmen and the thatchers, with their slow speech, their rich humour, their simplicity, and their superstitions.

In giving immortality to all these characters, Thomas Hardy made his own name secure; and his birthplace, now in the safe keeping of the National Trust, will ever be a place of literary pilgrimage.

OLIVER TWIST

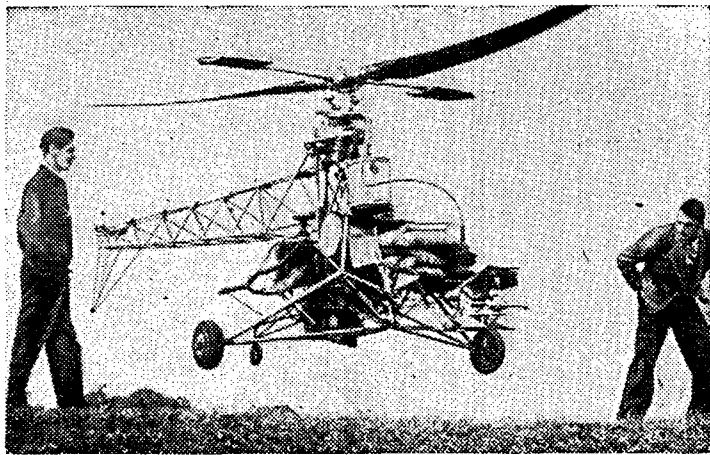
THE world première of Cine-guild's version of Charles Dickens's famous story is being held this week. Our picture shows the boy actor, John Howard Davies, whose performance of the part of Oliver Twist will delight many thousands of film-goers and Dickensians.

John, who was eight when the film was being made, was chosen after more than 1500 applicants had been rejected. The trouble with most of them was that they were too robust-looking for the fragile, neglected orphan Dickens so movingly portrayed. But



though John Howard Davies "looked the part," he is really a wiry young fellow, fond of swimming and diving. The film people engaged him just in time, for he grew two inches and put on six pounds in weight, while the film was being made!

June 26, 1948



The Hovering Machine

The American inventor of this helicopter claims that it is so stable that it rights itself when tilted by a gust of wind. In the picture it is flying by itself, the pilot's seat having been loaded with sandbags.

ALL ROADS LEAD TO LORD'S

ALL cricketers will be talking this week of Lord's, headquarters of the MCC and Middlesex, where the second Test match between England and Australia begins on Thursday.

Considered to be England's finest cricket ground, Lord's has witnessed some of the most memorable matches in the long history of games between England and Australia. It was there that the record for the lowest aggregate of runs was set up. This was in 1878, when Australia played the MCC—which was really a Test match, although in those days Tests, as we know them, were not played in this country.

It was an amazing match for the bowlers. The MCC scored only 33 runs and 19 runs in their two innings; and Australia replied with 41, and 12 for one wicket, which enabled them to win the match. The gate-money

for the whole match amounted to only £119 7s.

It was at Lord's, too, that the highest match aggregate was set up. It was in the second Test of the 1930 series, when England's batsmen scored 425 and 375; and Australia hit 729 for 6 wickets declared, and 72 for 3 wickets, enabling them to win with seven wickets to spare. In that match four individual centuries were scored—K. S. Duleep-singhi (173) and A. P. F. Chapman (121) for England; and W. M. Woodfull (155) and Don Bradman (254) for Australia. Even in those days Bradman was something of a nightmare to the English bowlers.

There have been 16 Tests against Australia at Lord's, and this week's match will be in the nature of a "rubber," for the two countries have each won five of the games—the other six being left drawn.

New Zealand's Oldest Industry

ANXIOUS to prevent the flax fibre industry from disappearing, the New Zealand Government has announced that it will buy all the flax fibre produced in the next ten years.

When the first British explorers visited New Zealand, more than 170 years ago, they noted how the native Maori people made ropes and cloaks from the silky fibres of the sword-like green blades of a native plant. Phormium tenax the botanists called it, but the traders and settlers called it flax, because its fibres were like those of the linen flax plant of Europe.

Making rope and twine from the strong fibres of the flax plant was New Zealand's first overseas industry. Maoris supplied bales of dressed flax to traders in exchange for axes, knives, and guns.

Early settlers set up steam flaxmills to produce bales of fibre much faster than the Maoris could do by hand. But in recent years New Zealand's flax industry has almost died out. This was due partly to the low prices obtainable for dressed flax, and partly because land that had grown flax was ploughed up to grow grass for sheep and cattle.

New Zealand has now found that she needs all the flax fibre she can grow in order to supply twine and rope for her own people and also for the weaving of wool packs. And the Government will not only purchase all that is grown during the next ten years; it has promised the flax-millers that they will receive a price for their fibre which will make the growing of flax plants as profitable as the growing of grass for sheep and cattle.

PHOTOGRAPHERS AT THE VATICAN

A TEAM of expert photographers is leaving London for Rome to help in the making of a direct colour recording of the famous Vatican frescoes. The most elaborate scaffolding will be required to bring the cameras and operators near enough to the roof, and the task is expected to take about six weeks and to cost about £40,000. The celebrated Sistine Chapel, on which Michael Angelo lavished his great genius,

will itself occupy a whole week and each exposure will cost roughly £500.

The reproductions of the Vatican frescoes will eventually appear in a book called *The Living Vatican*, but before that they will be exhibited both in this country and America. In the event of damage to those priceless frescoes, the photographs would prove an invaluable record.

The Editor's Table

GOOD FOLLOWERS

THE Duke of Edinburgh spoke for all the followers of great men and great causes at the Guildhall when, in receiving the Freedom of the City of London, he modestly hoped to be a "good follower," one of the many millions of followers—the unsung host—"who have a great contribution to make to their country and to the cause of peace in the world generally."

These words from a young sailor who did his duty and took his orders during the war are timely—coming at a moment when the future of mankind most certainly depends as much on the quality of the followers as on the policies of the leaders. The Duke of Edinburgh also promised that he and the Princess would set as their ideal "to make the most of our special opportunities," an aim well within the range also of everyone in the country. Exalted position, it is true, brings higher and wider responsibilities, but there are special opportunities for everyone whatever mission he seeks to fulfil.

IN his drive across North Africa General Montgomery took great pains to see that every man in the ranks knew what the campaign was about and what its aims were. He treated every man as a vital link in the long chain that led to victory, knowing that the strength of the chain is the strength of the individual link. That was the sort of leadership which makes good followers. It exalted the dreary day-to-day life of the soldier in the desert into a great adventure in which both leader and followers were united, brothers in the same enterprise.

That is the soul of all good following. To go on with faith in the leaders, not to whimper when the first battle is lost—

*To strive, to seek, to win
And not to yield.*

To place obedience among the first virtues, to have faith in the cause to the very end—these are qualities of the good follower; and they are qualities of which our own country and all the world now have need.

Hands Across the Border

THE disastrous floods in British Columbia provided recently a fine example of international co-operation across the long undefended frontier between Canada and the U.S. An appeal for help in fighting the floods in the Fraser Valley was sent out by the Canadian Government and the Premier of British Columbia.

In response, three American flood experts arrived in the area and several hundred American volunteers from the U.S. town of Bellingham, just across the border, hurried to the scene to help to man the threatened dykes.

The C.N. in China

THE C.N. is now read and enjoyed in about 250 Chinese schools, according to British United Aid to China. The organisation received from Chinese teachers many requests for educational publications from England, and, thanks to the help of British boys and girls who contributed to the fund, a year's subscription to the C.N. has now been presented to each of 250 schools in China.

The Chinese teachers are most enthusiastic in their appreciation for, they say, not only are their children kept well-informed, but a considerable improvement is noticeable in their English, which is the secondary language in China.

The C.N. feels that it can speak for its readers as well as for itself in sending greetings to our young friends in these 250 schools in China.

NO RELAXING

GREAT BRITAIN and Norway are the only two European countries which took part in the war and have since exceeded their pre-war production of goods. This is revealed by the recent Economic Commission for Europe, which also shows that Britain's average production, 108 per cent of what it was before the war, is the highest of the European belligerent countries. The average production of the other countries—excluding Germany and the U.S.S.R.—is about 90 per cent of pre-war figures.

Drawing attention not long ago to this hopeful sign, Mr H. A. Marquand, the Paymaster General, pointed out that it was no reason for us to relax in our effort to produce more goods. "The impression might be getting abroad that that problem is now solved and we can relax," he said. "On the contrary... We are still in grave difficulties, paying our way by selling our last reserves bit by bit."

C.N. readers will agree with Mr Marquand; there can be no relaxing in our grave economic struggle.

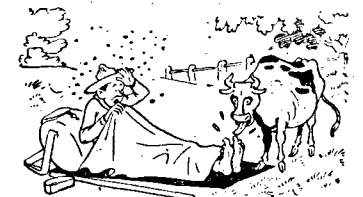
Under the F

DOCTORS admit they know very little about hunger. Must be fed up.

UTILITY furniture is to have greater variety. Shoppers won't see much change.

THERE are now 50,000,000 mouths to feed in Britain. But nobody looks down in the mouth.

SEVEN tram-cars are for sale at Stockport. Some tradesman might start a new line.



BRITAIN is manufacturing air beds. Weary Willie hopes they will be better than open-air beds.

THREE YEARS AGO

ON June 26, 1945, the Charter of the United Nations was adopted at San Francisco by the delegates of 50 nations, and all over the world millions of human hearts leapt with hope at the news.

There have been disappointments since then, but the magnificent phrases from the Preamble to the Charter grip men's minds now as then:

"We the peoples of the United Nations, determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, which twice in our lifetime has brought untold sorrow to mankind, and

—to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small, and

—to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, and

—to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, and for these ends . . . have resolved to combine our efforts to accomplish these aims."

Let us not cease to strive with all our power for the fulfilment of these noble aims.

Princess on a Medal



This new medal of the Royal Society of Arts bears the head of Princess Elizabeth, who was elected President of the Society last year. The medal is the work of Mr Percy Metcalfe, who has designed coinage for many countries.

THINGS SAID

It is probably no longer true that the United States is a young country and Britain an old one.

Sir Oliver Franks, British Ambassador to the U S

As a people we excel when the road is hard, but are not so good when things are easy.

Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery

You can't stamp out Communism by driving it underground, but you can prevent it by more and better democracy.

President Truman

By keeping fit in body we go far towards keeping fit in mind, and in spirit as well. There is no better way in which we can prepare ourselves to be good neighbours and good citizens.

Princess Elizabeth

As long as I live I'll most readily answer to the name of Ike.

General Eisenhower

IN DICKENS'S OWN COUNTRY

ON June 23 mayors from all over England will be the guests of the Mayor of Gravesend, at a garden party to be held in the grounds of Cobham Hall.

With full civic dignity, and accompanied by their mace-bearers, these leading citizens will spend a few pleasant hours in the heart of Dickens's country, where Mr Pickwick often shed his geniality.

Readers of The Pickwick Papers remember the journey of Mr Pickwick, Mr Winkle, and Mr Snodgrass to The Leathern Bottle at Cobham in search of Mr Tracy Tupman. Dickens described their walk from Rochester to Cobham thus: "A delightful walk it was: for it was a pleasant afternoon in June . . . They emerged upon an open park, with an ancient hall displaying the quaint, picturesque architecture of Elizabeth's time."

The heart of old Pickwick, and that of his creator, too, would have bounded with delight at the sight of England's civic dignitaries collected together on a June afternoon in that corner of Kent they knew and loved so well.

Lies Are Troublesome

TRUTH is always consistent with itself, and needs nothing to help it out: it is always near at hand, sits upon our lips, and is ready to drop out before we are aware; a lie is troublesome, and sets a man's invention upon the rack, and one trick needs a great many more to make it good. It is like building upon a false foundation, which continually stands in need of props to shore it up, and proves at last more chargeable than to have raised a substantial building at first upon a true and solid foundation.

Addison

JUST AN IDEA

As Dickens wrote, Every failure teaches a man something, if he will learn.

A School's 1000 Years

THIS week the City of St Albans is celebrating the millenary of many of its institutions. Among these is St Albans School, which claims to be the oldest school in England.

A school attached to the Abbey was founded in Saxon times, probably by Abbot Wulsin. Today this 1000-year-old school still lies within the precincts of the ancient St Albans Monastery, of which one of the only two remaining parts, the Great Gateway, is included in the school buildings.

St Albans was already a flourishing school when William the Conqueror landed, and during the Abbacy of Richard Daubeny (from 1097 to 1119) a learned man, Geoffrey of Maine, was brought over from the Continent to be the Master.

The English Pope

By 1195 it was written of St Albans that there was no school in England which gave a better education and none that was "fuller of scholars." Among the old boys of the School in this period is believed to have been the only Englishman who ever became Pope, Nicholas Breakspear, who in 1154 became Pope Adrian IV.

Probably no school has had a more eventful history. In 1381 the scholars found themselves in the middle of a battle when the Abbey Gateway was besieged by the rebel peasants of Wat Tyler's rebellion—which the boys doubtless found more exciting than Latin grammar; and in the Wars of the Roses two more battles took place at St Albans—in 1455 and 1461.

Not long afterwards something far more important happened—though it is unlikely that the boys of those days realised its significance. It seems that the headmaster was interested in the new invention of printing, and in 1479 the third printing press in England was set up in St Albans by one who was described as "some-tyme Scolmaster of Saynt Alban." He printed there one of the earliest books on hunting, hawking, and fishing, known to collectors as The Boke of St Alban.

When, in 1539, Henry VIII suppressed St Albans Monastery, the burgesses of the town were able to transfer the already time-honoured school to the Lady Chapel of the Abbey, where it remained for over 300 years—until 1871.

We get a glimpse of school life there in the 16th century from a list of regulations drawn up by

Sir Nicholas Bacon—father of the famous Sir Francis Bacon—who was one of the Patrons of the School. The list, dated May 16, 1570, reveals that hours of work were from 6 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 5 p.m. in summer. In winter there was one hour less, school beginning at 7 a.m. The number of boys in the School was limited to 120 and "none shall be received . . . but such as have learned their accidence without booke and can wright indifferently." There were entrance exams even then!

Parents were instructed: "ye shall find your child in ink, paper, pens, wax candles for winter, and all other things at any time requisite and necessary for the maintenance of his study . . . and ye shall allow your child at all times a bow, 3 arrows, bow-strings, a shooting glove, and a bracer to exercise shooting." The Junior Training Corps was evidently a going concern in those days!

Charters were given to the School by King Edward VI and Queen Mary in 1553, and by Queen Elizabeth about six or seven years later.

Charles I visited the School, and the head boys made speeches to him. But loyal speeches had to be forgotten when Roundhead soldiers came to occupy the town for Parliament.

In 1871 the old Abbey Gateway was purchased and the whole school was transferred there from the Lady Chapel. Important additions to the school buildings were made in 1907 and again in 1936.

St Albans School's millenary is being celebrated jointly with those of four other St Albans institutions, three churches and the market. This week is a proud one indeed for this historic city.

BOY CONDUCTOR

ON Thursday this week (June 24) the ten-year-old Italian boy conductor, Pierino Gamba, is to conduct one of the concerts of the London Music Festival at Harringay Indoor Arena, which can hold 10,000 people. Among the items Pierino will conduct is Beethoven's "Eroica" Symphony.

Last Thursday, June 17, at Harringay, Pierino conducted another of the concerts, and among the pieces played was Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.



Sketchy!

A young artist at Dr Barnardo's Homes prepares a sketch for an exhibition of handicraft which Princess Margaret will visit on July 15.

Good Neighbours In Dumfries

DURING the last week of June, the townspeople of Dumfries are celebrating their annual Guid Nychburris Festival. This unique event has its origin in a Court of Guid Nychburrhude (Court of Good Neighbourhood) held long ago in Dumfries to try people for offences which were not strictly punishable but which transgressed the code of neighbourliness.

In 1932 it was decided that this idea should be adopted as the general theme of the festival, and so for a week the people make a special effort to be good neighbours.

Bound up with this charming idea is another ancient custom—riding the Marches or boundaries of the town, a colourful ceremony which begins with a mounted courier riding in through the old town gateway to inform the Provost that a Messenger from the King is waiting on the outskirts. The Town Drummer then beats a stirring tattoo to arouse the town and a cavalcade of up to two hundred horsemen rides out to welcome the King's Messenger, who is conducted round the town's ancient marches, pegs being placed in the ground to mark these boundaries.

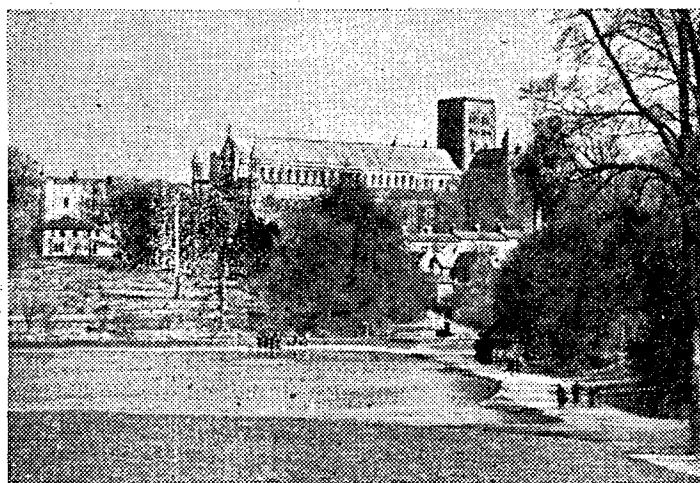
The horsemen later return to the Midsteeple, which is the site of the old Mercat Cross, and there, in the presence of the townspeople, the King's Messenger hands to the Provost a replica of the Royal Charter. To conclude the day's ceremonies there is the crowning of a Dumfries schoolgirl as Queen of the South, the symbol of her queenship representing all those gifts of freedom which the Town Charter confers on the freemen of Dumfries.

BATTLESHIP GREEN

AFTER nearly fifty years the familiar battleship-grey of the Royal Navy is to be gradually changed to a pale greenish tinge, and as ships require repainting they will receive a coat of the new colour.

Before 1901 battleships were painted with a black hull, red waterline, white upper works, and yellow masts and funnels. From 1901 tests were made to find a more suitable colour scheme and in 1903 the use of grey became general.

Two main reasons for the introduction of the new paint are that it requires less linseed oil, which is very costly at present, and that it has much greater fire-resisting qualities.



THIS ENGLAND

A peaceful corner near St Albans Cathedral

ditor's Table

PETER PUCK
WANTS TO KNOW

If a tailor takes
measures to make
himself fit



TWELVE busmen have visited Lancashire to see how the busmen work up there. They all got on together.

SPANISH onions are hard to find in shops. Some people manage to get on their scent.

WHEN rain comes down it improves our fruit supplies. And prices come down too.

A RESOLUTION at a Council meeting was passed by a narrow majority. The broad-minded members were evidently against it.

AMERICAN clothes are cut on British lines. Clothes lines, of course.

The 10,000-Year Lease

THE 2232-acre Barmston estate which comes up for auction on the 23rd of this month, at the Yorkshire town of Driffield, has been in possession of the same family for over 450 years. The estate last changed hands in a world believed to consist of only three continents, for America and Australasia had not then been discovered. The first king belonging to the illustrious House of Tudor was about to ascend the throne, but the descendants of the family that was then newly arrived at Barmston were to see over a score of British Sovereigns come and go while their ownership remained unchanged.

There is a fascination in the story of long-lasting possession of properties in the same family. They are part of history, showing that in spite of occasional civil strife and one civil war, life in this country has been peaceful on the whole; no family could have held its private acres so long had it not been so.

Our laws are founded on the belief and expectation that property will pass peacefully from father to son or other kindred, century after century, and there is one English lease in existence that, granted for 10,000 years in respect of 256 acres of land at Hartford Manor, near Petworth, Sussex, is still merely in its infancy. Signed in the seventh year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, this lease has 9617 years still to run!

The sum fixed at the outset as rent, when this Sussex lease was first signed in the 16th century, was £6 2s; and so it will remain, year after year and century after century, while the long, long lease remains valid.

DOG FEEDING TODAY

THE problem of getting enough food for our dogs is a very difficult one nowadays, and to help us the National Canine Defence League have issued a leaflet called Dog Feeding Today.

The leaflet will be sent free by the Canine Defence League, 8 Clifford Street, New Bond Street, London, W.1. Send a penny stamped addressed envelope.

Laugh While You Learn—Nature Study Made Easy

THE Lapwing, or Peewit, is usually found in the meadows, marshes, and moors of Britain. With its slender shape and long black crest, it is a graceful bird, sometimes pausing with one foot held under its breast in perfect balance. To search for the grubs and insects on which it feeds, it has a long sharp beak. The upper parts of the bird are dark metallic green; with the underparts white and a black breast, it appears to be a black and



white bird when in flight. The heavy flapping movement of the broad rounded wings is very noticeable. The nest is usually a depression in the ground and the antics of the bird are very amusing if danger threatens. This art of trying to deceive is quickly copied by the young birds, which at a signal from the parent bird, will stop instantly or feign death. Its wailing cry of Pee-wee gives the Peewit its name.

A GREAT EVENT IN INVERNESS

THE Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland is holding its show at Inverness this week, for the first time for many years. The "Highland" is regarded as the shop window of all that is best and most typical in Scottish agricultural life, and when the King and Queen and Princess Margaret visit it on June 24 they will see enough to keep them interested for several hours.

A Scottish Highland Show always has an atmosphere all of its own, and in Inverness it has a perfect setting. Inverness is called the Capital of the Highlands, and around it rise the magnificent peaks of wooded mountains, while blue hills are reflected in the lovely curve of the Moray Firth as it runs north to Tarbat Ness.

As increased production from the land is as important now as it ever was, it is not surprising that there should be a record entry for this year's "Highland." From all over Scotland the pick of the country's breeders send in their choicest animals. Side by side in the cattle section a square-set Aberdeen-Angus bull and a placid-eyed Ayrshire heifer quietly wait their turn to parade in the ring under the eye of the judges. Sheep, too, there are in

plenty, ranging from the Black-face and Cheviot to the Oxford Down and the Suffolk.

Where the children tend to crowd thickest is round the stands displaying the dairy produce and the honey. Here are to be seen one-pound blocks of glossy butter, great Cheddar cheeses, and countless jars filled to the brim with the liquid gold of heather honey—all a sight to make the mouth water.

New Farming Methods

For the experts, perhaps the implement and machinery section of the Inverness Show is the most interesting, for, owing to the drive for added production during the war, there has been considerable progress in the mechanical and scientific side of farming. New methods of grass-drying, of silage-making and, of course, the remarkable "combine" harvester which does so many different jobs, are all on view. There is also a section on forestry which reveals what Scotland is doing to reclothe her hill slopes.

Worthily, does this year's Highland Show uphold the ideals of the first Highland Society, which was founded in 1784 in Fortune's Tontine Tavern, in the High Street, Edinburgh. If the fifty

gentlemen who were present at that first meeting could walk round the Inverness Show of 1948 they would be both surprised and gratified at the great improvements in farming technique made since their time. They would also be astonished at the size of the modern "Highland."

When the first general show of the Society was held in Edinburgh, in December 1822, the exhibition consisted of a few pairs of bullocks in a showyard that barely extended over an acre of ground, and the prize-money amounted to £75. Today there is a showyard of nearer 60 acres, with a display of every type of farm livestock, as well as elaborate machinery, implements, rolls of handsome tartan tweeds, hand-made shepherd's crooks, and large shawls so finely knitted that they can be drawn through a wedding ring. Moreover, the value of cups and prizes offered is about £7000.

It would not be too much to say that no farmer could visit this year's "Highland" without learning something from the results of the efforts and experiments of others. That, indeed, is the primary object of a Highland Show.

Bibles With Queer Names

A COPY of the 1560 Geneva or "Breeches" Bible has been presented to Selborne parish church in Hampshire. It was so-called because it printed Genesis iii, 7, as, "they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves breeches," instead of "aprons."

The Breeches Bible was produced at Geneva by English exiles in the time of Queen Mary. The copy at Selborne originally belonged to the brother of Gilbert White, the famous naturalist who lived there.

There are many other oddly-named Bibles. One is the "Printers' Bible," because Psalm cxix, 161, is misprinted, "Printers have persecuted me" instead of "Princes." Tyndale's New Testament of 1538 was often called "The Wife's Bible," because in 2 Corinthians x, 11, appeared "Think on his wife" instead of "Think on this wise."

The Vinegar Vineyard

The "Servant Bible" was thus named because Genesis iii, 1, is misprinted "Now the servant (instead of serpent) was more subtil than any beast of the field." In the "Judas Bible," Judas appears instead of Jesus in Matthew xxvi, 36. The "Vinegar Bible" got its name because vinegar was printed instead of vineyard in Luke xx. In the "Bugges Bible" Psalm xc, 5, is rendered, "Be not afraid of any bugges by night," but bugges was an old English word for bogey or bugbear.

In the "Treacle Bible," treacle is substituted for balm in, "Is there no balm in Gilead?" (Jeremiah viii, 22). Rosin was substituted for balm in the 1609-10 Douai version which was thus called the "Rosin Bible."

The second edition of the Geneva Bible, 1562, came to be called the "Whig Bible" because in the Beatitudes was printed "Blessed are the place makers" instead of "peacemakers"; the political opponents of the Whigs so calling it because of the supposed habits of the Whigs of finding lucrative posts for their friends.

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM—Picture Version of Shakespeare's Droll Comedy

Lysander and Demetrius, under the spell of the magic love-juice, were both in love with Helena. Hermia, who

had fled from Athens with Lysander, was amazed that her lover had deserted her. But Helena, who was really in

love with Demetrius, thought the others were in league to play an unkind joke on her and was enraged.



Helena reproached Hermia for her part in this cruel jest, as she thought it, reminding Hermia of their close friendship since their school days. Poor Hermia could not understand what Helena meant. She asked her sweetheart, Lysander, to explain what all this was about; but, to her greater bewilderment, he told her roughly he hated her and loved Helena. Hermia could hardly believe her ears.



Helena still thought they were teasing her and, very angry, she called Hermia a "puppet." Hermia, who was sensitive about her height, lost her temper: "Thou painted maypole!" she exclaimed. "I am not yet so low but that my nails can reach thine eyes!" Alarmed at fierce little Hermia's threats, Helena cried: "I pray you, though you mock me, gentlemen, Let her not hurt me!"



Lysander restrained Hermia. "She shall not harm thee, Helena," he said. Demetrius hotly forbade him to speak to Helena or to show her the slightest love. Lysander challenged Demetrius to go with him into the wood and fight it out. Demetrius followed him. Helena exclaimed to Hermia: "Your hands than mine are quicker for a fray; my legs are longer though, to run away!"



Oberon told Puck to prevent Lysander and Demetrius from fighting by creating a fog, and by imitating the rivals' voices, to lead them farther apart from each other until, tired, they lay down to sleep. Then Puck was to crush the juice of another herb into Lysander's eyes so that, when he awoke, he would love Hermia again, and think all that had happened in the wood a strange dream.

Meanwhile, How is Titania Getting on With Ass-Headed Bottom? See Next Week's Instalment

The Children's Newspaper, June 26, 1948

The Crow and the Southern Cross

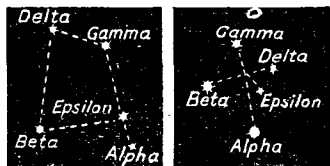
By the C.N. Astronomer

THE remarkable constellation of Corvus, the celestial Crow, is now a prominent feature of the southern Heavens. It may be readily recognised, from our star-map, rather low down in the sky as soon as it becomes dark.

This star group has been thus known since early Chaldean times and it represents the Raven which Noah sent out from the Ark; but in Roman times the name became latinised into Corvus, the Crow.

The five chief stars of Corvus are bright and easily identified. An unusual circumstance is that Alpha in Corvus is the faintest, suggesting that it has faded. This star represents the Eye of the Raven and is about 62 light-years distant, or some 3,924,000 times farther than our Sun. Delta in Corvus represents one of the bird's Wings and is a great sun, yellowish in hue, that radiates about 45 times more light than our Sun and is 6,265,000 times farther away; apparently revolving round Delta is a much smaller planetary "companion" sun, resembling rather a flaming world in the making, and lilac in tint.

Gamma in Corvus is at a distance of 136 light-years and radiates about 120 times more light than our Sun, this star representing the other Wing of the bird. Beta in Corvus indicates a Foot of the Raven and is



Corvus Southern Cross

a sun radiating about 90 times more light than our Sun but from a distance 5,696,000 times greater. Epsilon in Corvus is 7,658,000 times farther off than our Sun and radiates 85 times more light.

Now, due south of Corvus is another constellation which also has five chief stars. It is the Southern Cross, which may at present conveniently be compared with Corvus; for, though the Southern Cross is never seen from Britain, observers may with the help of the two accompanying star-maps form a good conception of what it would look like were it in the place of Corvus, both maps being on the same scale, and the relative magnitude of the stars suggested.

The Southern Cross is generally well known from its appearance as a symbol on the flags of Australia and New Zealand. Actually, between 6000 and 8000 years ago, its stars could have been seen from what is now Britain.

Both Alpha-of-the-Cross and Beta-of-the-Cross are brilliant first-magnitude stars. Alpha is a superb four-fold star composed of two pairs of "giant" stars, at an average distance from us of 220 light-years. The larger pair radiate about 900 times more light than our Sun and whirl round each other in little under a day. The smaller pair radiate 560 times more light than our Sun and revolve close together also in less than a day. Beta is a sun so immense that it radiates 1500 times more light than our Sun and is 272 light-years distant. What superb stellar jewels for the symbol of the Southern Cross!

G. F. M.

A GENIUS IN THE FAMILY

THE magnificent collection of the works of Alfred Stevens, the famous 19th-century artist, at the Tate Gallery, London, has been reopened after being closed since 1939.

Alfred Stevens was a painter and the greatest English sculptor of the last century. He was born in 1818 in the little Dorset town of Blandford, where his father, George Stevens, had a small house-painting and decorating business. Alfred left school when he was ten and went to help in his father's workshop.

The lad was fascinated by colours and brushes, and was soon making up patterns of his own. The kindly Rector of Blandford, Samuel Best, told George that his son was a genius. "He ought to study art," he said, "he ought to go to Italy; that is the home of beautiful things."

The Fairy Godfather

George was perplexed. How could a poor tradesman send his son to Italy? The Rector became a fairy godfather, and one day young Alfred, aged 15, uncomfortable in a new suit, and holding a little bag containing a couple of shirts and some pencils, was saying good-bye to his father and mother. In his wallet was £60 lent by the Rector. Alfred was off to Italy.

After sundry adventures this Dorset lad, shy and uneducated, found himself in Florence. Homesickness was forgotten in his amazement and ecstasy at the beauty of the ancient town.

Denying himself all but the bare necessities, he set to work copying the frescoes by the Old Masters in the churches. Soon he found he could earn a little by selling his pictures to travellers. He went from one town to another. In Venice his copies of Titian's work were often taken for originals. Eight years passed thus. In 1841 he went to work in the Rome studio of the Danish sculptor Thorvaldsen, and so turned his hand to

the art that was to make him immortal. In 1842 young Alfred turned his footsteps homeward. He had in nine years astonished people by his genius, yet he landed in London without a single penny in his pocket and had to borrow the money to get to Blandford.

How bewildered must poor George have been when his brilliant son arrived home penniless! But Alfred cared little about money. He remained at home for two years, probably helping his father and puzzling the good local folk by his marvellous skill in bringing beauty into the most unlikely corners. For Alfred firmly believed that art should run like a golden thread through all the works of Man, and that a fireplace, or a name over a shop should be designed with as great care as a cathedral.

At last, however, he got a regular job, at the London School of Design. His fame as a designer grew, and among the many things of deathless beauty he has left to us are the famous decorations for Dorchester House, Park Lane, the models of which are at the Tate Gallery.

His Masterpiece

In 1856 came the great work of his life, designing and building a monument to the Duke of Wellington which was to stand in St Paul's Cathedral. Alfred's design was a huge conception, and he toiled at it for years. But he was hampered by all sorts of difficulties, official interference, and lack of money; and in 1875 he died, leaving his great work not quite finished.

Today we may see it in St Paul's Cathedral, the most magnificent piece of modelling of the 19th century.

Thomas Day and His Masterpiece

TENS of thousands of children have grown up either loving or loathing a famous book called Sandford and Merton; and Thomas Day, its scholarly but eccentric author, will be better remembered on June 22, the 200th anniversary of his birth, than a host of writers who sought to compete with him.

He was an astonishing character. Left in possession of ample means, the son of a Government servant with a handsome private income, Day earned credit at Charterhouse School and Cambridge University. Then, as later, he would strip himself of money to give to the poor, and, boxing like a champion, would instantly stop when he saw his opponent was his inferior. He became a barrister without practising; he travelled widely. When the lady of his choice was unwilling to marry him, he selected two founding girls from different orphanages, both aged 12, and decided to educate them on philosophical lines so that, when grown up after disciplined schooling, one of them might become his wife, while the other he would pension and provide with a husband elsewhere.

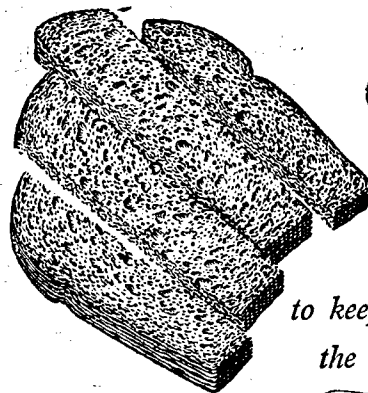
While their education was in progress he took the two orphans to France, where they are said to have quarrelled. That, and the

fact that they failed under tests that might possibly have had some value in the training of circus ponies, ultimately convinced him that his scientific system of schooling a wife-to-be was a failure, at least so far as these two young ladies were concerned. In the end each married the man of her choice, and Day was a generous benefactor to them.

When he was 30 Day married a gifted lady of fortune, who, knowing him for the sturdy, sterling crank he was, so far fell in with his views as to let him persuade her to promenade amid snow and bitter cold to harden her against illness, which it really seems to have done. Day next plunged into literature and farming, but continued to exercise his boundless generosity.

He wrote eleven books; but it is only through Sandford and Merton that his name and fame survive. It came out in three volumes, contrasting the ill conduct of the rich boy, Tommy Merton, with the nobility of virtuous Harry Sandford, the farmer's son, Mr Barlow the tutor being a kind of moralising referee. In all that book there is not one jest, not a single smile; yet to generation after generation it was the book of books for boys and girls.

The children are eating
more Hovis and honey . . .



to keep their strength up
the natural way

Hovis

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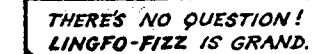
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THE BRAN TUB

CLEVER DOG

JAMES had acquired a new dog. "Is he clever?" asked John. "I should say so," said James. "Why, if, when I say to him 'Are you coming or not' he either comes or he doesn't."

Scott's Waterloo

THE critics were very disappointed when Scott wrote a poem called Waterloo. One of them wrote:

*On Waterloo's ensanguined plain
Fell twice ten thousand of the slain,
But none by sabre or by shot
Fell half so flat as Walter Scott.*

A LITTLE LOT

A LITTLE saint best fits a little shrine,
A little prop best fits a little vine;
As my small cruse best fits my little wine.
A little seed best fits a little soil,
A little trade best fits a little toil;
As my small jar best fits my little oil.
A little bin best fits a little bread,
A little garland fits a little head;
As my small stuff best fits my little shed.
A little hearth best fits my little fire,
A little chapel fits a little choir;
As my small bell best fits my little spire.
A little stream best fits a little boat,
A little lead best fits a little float;
As my small pipe best fits my little note. *Robert Herrick*

BEDTIME CORNER

Alan's Reward

ALAN was busy helping Father in the garden when he suddenly stopped. "I say, Daddie," he called excitedly, "I've just remembered that there's a model railway in the park. Can I have threepence for a ride on it?"

"It's rather late, now," said Father. "You can go tomorrow."

"But this is the last day, and if I don't go now I shall never have a ride," said Alan woefully.

"All right," laughed Father. "Off you go."

Alan dashed off; but when he got to the park he found the workmen already dismantling the end section of the track.

"I'm afraid you're too late," said the engine driver whom Alan asked for a ride. "We

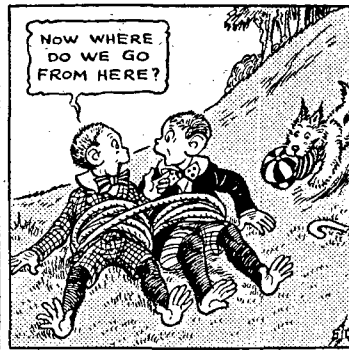
Jacko and Chimp Are "Roped In"



Jacko and Chimp were "mountaineering" on some grassy slopes.



That is, they were until Jacko decided to play "Roly Poly."



But like the good friends they are, they still stuck together!

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

Tree-top Terror. "There are too many squirrels about; they are doing considerable damage," complained Farmer Gray. "It's a pity that there are no pine-martens in the Big-woods."

"What could birds do?" asked Ann. "Pine-martens are animals, not birds," chuckled her brother Don.

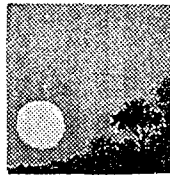
"Beautiful animals, too, but man's persecution has made them rare," explained Farmer Gray. "They are slender creatures, about 30 inches from nose to tip of tail. Their coats are a chestnut colour, and they are at home in the tree-tops almost as much as squirrels themselves. Pine-martens are fierce hunters and deadly foes of all squirrels."

What Your Name Means

Gwendolen	..	white bow
Hannah	..	grace
Harold	..	warrior
Harriet	..	home ruler
Hector	..	defender

Other Worlds

IN the evening Mars is low in the west, and Jupiter is low in the south-east. In the morning no planets are visible. The picture shows the Moon at 11.30 on Tuesday evening, June 22.



NOT SO STEADY

A CROSS-COUNTRY runner was Freddy,
A runner both speedy and steady,
But at the last ditch
He always had stitch
And stayed there till help became ready.

BEHEADING

I AM a much sought place of dwelling.
Cut off my head, and, lo,
We have a name of English rivers.
A further chop will show
Employment or continued practice.
Behead once more, and find
A compass point, or district,
Or a prevailing wind.

Answer next week

Children's Hour

BBC Programmes from Wednesday, June 23, to Tuesday, June 29.

WEDNESDAY, 5.0 Noddy's Day Out—a story; The Highwayman and the Merchant's Boy—a story; The Wigmakers—a story; Songs. Scottish, 5.0 Nosegay—a talk; Kirkintilloch Junior Choir; Dust—a talk.

THURSDAY, 5.0 Nicholas Thomas Gets Into Trouble Again (3). 5.15 The Railway Children (Part 2). Midland, 5.0 Pirates' Creek (Part 5); Friends—a story; Songs. North, 5.0 Adam of the Road (Part 3). Welsh, 5.30 A Nature Discussion.

FRIDAY, 5.0 The Shining Stones (Part 3); A Letter from Switzerland (3).

SATURDAY, 5.0 Tom Lord's Cricket Ground. Scottish, 5.0 Scots Choirs. West, 5.0 Ebby (3). 5.15 Magazine. 5.45 Cycle Speeds—a talk.

SUNDAY, 5.0 Calendar. North, 5.0 Nursery Sing-Song; A Professor Branestawm Adventure; Outdoor Sketching—a talk. Scottish, 5.0 The Secret Battle—a play. 5.35 Anniesland Junior Singers.

MONDAY, 5.0 Naughty Sophia (Part 6); Records. 5.40 Around the Countryside. North, 5.0 Story; Four in Hand; Leary Constantine on Cricket. Scottish, 5.0 Songs; Life of Sir J. M. Barrie (Part 1). 5.25 Nature Scrapbook. West, 5.40 The Pollen Dance—a talk.

TUESDAY, 5.0 The Family From One End Street (4); Records. 5.25 Nature Parliament. North, 5.0 The River Bandit (Part 6); Books Worth Reading; Current Affairs. Scottish, 5.0 Tammy Troot's Olympic Games; Down at the Mains.

The Children's Newspaper, June 26, 1948

PRIDE AND FALL

JONES was looking very pleased with himself.

"So Blank thought I was a polished gentleman, did he? What were his exact words?"

"He said you were a slippery customer."

Tongue Twister

Repeat this several times quickly.
ESTELLE expeditiously and expertly extracted excellent accessories.

ANSWER TO
LAST WEEK'S
CROSS WORD
PUZZLE

INSET	LEE
M	EARNEST
P	RATE
E	AR
L	IST
L	OR
O	W
P	AIN
E	YE
A	D
S	I
S	U
M	

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